

# A GLORIOUS LETTER.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8, 1888.  
Hon. Patrick A. Collins and  
Others, Committee, &c.

GENTLEMEN.—In addressing to you my formal acceptance of the nomination for President of the United States, my thoughts persistently dwell upon the impressive relation of such action to the American people, whose confidence is thus invited, and to the political party to which I belong, just entering upon a contest for continued supremacy.

The world does not afford a spectacle more sublime than is furnished when millions of free and intelligent American citizens select their Chief Magistrate and bid one of their number to find the highest earthly honor and the full measure of public duty in ready submission to their will.

It follows that a candidate for this high office can never forget that when the turmoil and the strife which attend the selection of its incumbent shall be heard no more there must be in the quiet calm which follows a complete and solemn self-consecration by the people's chosen President of every faculty and endeavor to the service of a confiding and generous nation of freemen.

These thoughts are intensified by the light of my experience in the Presidential office, which has soberly impressed me with the severe responsibilities which it imposes, while it has quickened my love for American institutions and taught me the priceless value of the trust of my countrymen.

## DUTY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

It is of the highest importance that those who administer our government should jealously protect and maintain the rights of American citizens at home and abroad, and should strive to achieve for our country her proper place among the nations of the earth; but there is no people whose home interests are so great and whose numerous objects of domestic concern deserve so much watchfulness and care.

Among these are the regulations of a sound financial system suited to our needs, thus securing an efficient agency of national wealth and general prosperity; the construction and equipment of means of defence, to insure our national domain, still stretching beyond the needs of a century's expansion, and its preservation for the settler and the pioneer of our marvelous growth; a sensible and sincere recognition of the value of American labor, leading to the scrupulous care and just appreciation of the interest of our workingmen; the limitation and checking of monopolistic tendencies and schemes as interfere with the advantages and benefits which the people may rightly claim; a generous regard and care for our surviving soldiers and sailors and for the widows and orphans of such as have died, to the end that while the appreciation of their service and sacrifice is quickened, the application of their pension fund to improper uses may be prevented; protection against a servile immigration, which injuriously competes with our laboring men in the field

of toil and adds to our population an element ignorant of our institutions and laws, impossible of assimilation with our people and dangerous to our peace and welfare; a strict and steadfast adherence to the principles of civil service reform and a thorough execution of the laws passed for their enforcement, thus permitting to our people the advantages of business methods in the operations of their government; the guarantee of our colored citizens of all the rights of citizenship, and their just recognition and encouragement in all things pertaining to that relation; a firm, patient and humane Indian policy, so that in peaceful relations with the government the civilization of the Indian may be promoted, with resulting quiet and safety to the settlers on our frontiers; and the curtailment of public expense by the introduction of economical methods in every department of the government.

## INDORSING THE PLATFORM.

The pledges contained in the platform adopted by the late convention of the national democracy lead to the advancement of these objects and insure good government—the aspiration of every true American citizen and the motive for every patriotic action and effort. In the consciousness that much has been done in the direction of good government by the present administration, and submitting its record to the fair inspection of my countrymen, I indorse the platform thus presented, with the determination that if I am again called to the Chief Magistracy there shall be a continuance of devoted endeavor to advance the interests of the entire country.

Our scale of Federal taxation and its consequences largely engross at this time the attention of our citizens and the people are soberly considering the necessity of measure of relief.

Our government is the creation of the people, established to carry out their designs and accomplish their good. It was founded on justice and was made for a free, intelligent and virtuous people. It is only useful when within their control, and only serves them well when regulated and guided by their constant touch.

It is a free government because it guarantees to every American citizen the unrestricted personal use and enjoyment of all the reward of his toil and all of his income, except what may be his fair contribution to necessary public expenses. Therefore it is not only the right but the duty of a free people, in the enforcement of this guaranty to insist that such expense should be strictly limited to the actual public needs. It seems perfectly clear that when the government—this instrumentality created and maintained by the people to do their bidding—turns upon them, and through an utter perversion of its powers extorts from their labor and capital tribute largely in excess of public necessities, has rebelled against the creator and the masters are robbed by their servants.

## HOW GOVERNMENT IS SUSTAINED.

The cost of the government

must continue to be met by tariff duties collected at our custom houses upon imported goods, and by internal revenue taxes assessed upon spirits and malt liquors, tobacco and oleomargarine. I suppose it is needless to explain that all these duties and assessments are added to the price of the articles upon which they are levied, and thus become a tax upon all those who buy these articles for use and consumption.

I suppose, too, it is well understood that the effect of this tariff taxation is not limited to the consumers of imported articles, but that the duties imposed upon such articles permit a corresponding increase in price to be laid upon domestic productions of the same kind, which increase, paid by all our people as consumers of home productions and entering every American home, constitutes a form of taxation as certain and as inevitable as though the amount was annually paid into the hand of the tax gatherer.

These results are inseparable from the plan we have adopted for the collection of our revenue by tariff duties. They are not mentioned to discredit the system, but by way of preface to the statement that every million of dollars collected at our custom houses for duties upon imported articles and paid into the public Treasury represent many millions more which, though never reaching the national Treasury, are paid by our citizens as the increased cost of domestic productions resulting from our tariff laws.

## TARIFF MUST BE LIMITED.

In these circumstances, and in view of this necessary effect of the operation of our plan for raising revenue, the absolute duty of limiting the rate of tariff charges to the necessities of a frugal and economical administration of the government seems to be perfectly plain. The continuance, upon a pretext of meeting public expenditures, of such a scale of tariff taxation as draws from the substance of the people a sum largely in excess of public needs is surely something which, under a government based upon justice, and which finds its strength and usefulness in the faith and trust of the people, ought not to be tolerated.

While the heaviest burdens incident to the necessities of the government are uncomplainingly borne, light burdens become grievous and intolerable when not justified by such necessities.

Unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation.

And yet this is our condition. We are annually collecting at our custom houses, and by means of our internal revenue taxation, many millions in excess of all legitimate public needs. As a consequence there now remains in the national Treasury a surplus of more than one hundred and thirty millions of dollars.

No better evidence could be furnished that the people are exorbitantly taxed. The extent of the superfluous burden indicated by this surplus will be better appreciated when it is suggested that such surplus alone represents taxation aggregating more than one hundred and

eight thousand dollars in a county containing fifty thousand inhabitants.

## TAXATION NOT AN IDEA.

Taxation has always been the feature of organized government, the hardest to reconcile with the people's ideas of freedom and happiness. When presented in a direct form nothing will arouse popular discontent more quickly and profoundly than unjust and unnecessary taxation. Our farmers, mechanics, laborers, and all our citizens closely scan the slightest increase in the taxes assessed upon their lands and other property, and demand good reason for such increase. And yet they seem to be expected, in some quarters, to regard the unnecessary volume of insidious and indirect taxation visited upon them by our present rate of tariff duties with indifference, if not with favor.

The surplus revenue now remaining in the treasury not only furnishes conclusive proof of unjust taxation, but its existence constitutes a separate and independent menace to the prosperity of the people.

This vast accumulation of idle funds represents that much money drawn from the circulating medium of the country which is needed in the channels of trade and of business.

## LARGE SURPLUS INJURES ALL.

It is a great mistake to suppose that the consequences which follow the continual withdrawal and hoarding by the currency of the people are not of immediate importance to the mass of our citizens, and only concern those engaged in large financial transaction.

In the restless enterprise and activity which free and ready money among the people produces, is found that opportunity for labor and employment and that impetus to business and production, which bring in their train prosperity to our citizens in every station and vocation. New ventures, new investments in business and manufacture, the construction of new and important works and the enlargement of enterprises already established depend largely upon obtaining money upon easy terms with fair security, and all these things are stimulated by an abundant volume of circulating medium. Even the harvest grain of the farmer remains without a market unless money is forthcoming for its movements and transportation to the seaboard.

The first results of a scarcity of money among the people is the exaction of severe terms for its use. Increasing distrust and timidity is followed by a refusal to loan or advance on any terms. Investors refuse all risks and decline all securities, and in a general fright the money still in the hands of the people is persistently hoarded.

It is quite apparent that when this perfectly natural, if not inevitable, stage is reached, depression in all business and enterprise will as a necessary consequence lessen the opportunity for work and employment and reduce salaries and the wages of labor.

(Continued in next issue.)

## To the Citizens of Watauga County.

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LENOIR, N. C.  
Sept. 19, 1888. tf.

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Asheville, N. C. June 27 '88

PASSENGER TRAIN SCHEDULE to take effect June 24, '88.

STATIONS.	read down	west bound.
Boston	12:15 a.m.	12:50 p.m.
New York	12:15 a.m.	12:50 p.m.
Philadelphia	7:20 a.m.	12:50 p.m.
Baltimore	9:45 a.m.	12:50 p.m.
Washington	11:24 a.m.	12:50 p.m.
Cynchburg	5:50 p.m.	12:50 p.m.
Annville	8:50 "	12:50 "
Richmond	3:10 "	12:50 "
Leidsville	9:41 "	12:50 "
Wilmington	9:00 a.m.	12:50 "
Morhead	5:37 a.m.	12:50 "
Goldsboro	2:40 p.m.	12:50 "
Norfolk	5:00 "	12:50 "
Burham	6:04 "	12:50 "
Greensboro	10:45 "	12:50 "
Salisbury	12:21 night	12:50 "
Salisbury	12:45 "	12:50 "
Statesville	5:50 a.m.	12:50 "
Sewton	2:53 "	12:50 "
Aickory	3:20 "	12:50 "
Conley Spring	3:43 "	12:50 "
Morganton	4:12 "	12:50 "
Marion	5:07 "	12:50 "
Concord	6:05 "	12:50 "
Black Mt.	6:46 "	12:50 "
Asheville	7:28 "	12:50 "
Hot Springs	9:15 "	12:50 "
Morrisstown	11:10 "	12:50 "
Knoxville	12:45 "	12:50 "
Louisville	7:55 a.m.	12:50 "
Cincinnati	11:55 a.m.	12:50 "
Chicago	6:55 p.m.	12:50 "
St. Lewis	8:00 p.m.	12:50 "
Chattanooga	5:20 p.m.	12:50 "
Nashville	12:00 night	12:50 "
Memphis	6:10 a.m.	12:50 "

Asheville, N. C. June 18, 1888.  
Waynesville Ar 8:25 a.m.  
Charlotte " 10:53 a.m.  
Spartanburg " 3:05 p.m.  
Greenville " 5:48 p.m.

STATIONS.	read up	east bound.
Boston	12:15 a.m.	12:50 p.m.
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